Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Even where there is a bathing ghat people have been drowned.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Has the Minister made local enquiries in the matter?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): There are various things to be looked into. When a river flows any number of bathing ghats will be useful. But unfortunately we must apportion the funds according to availability. Funds are not available. That is the difficulty. We don't question for a moment that it is not a necessity.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): At a distance of 7 miles from Kanjirappilly up to the Chalakkudi bridge, how many bathing public ghats are there? There is no bathing ghat. This is not only a local necessity, but is the necessity of the people of your favourite Trichur.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I want the House to realise that each bathing ghat costs about Rs. 1,000, and we can't devote all the money to one Panchayat alone.

CHALAKKUDI RAILWAY STATION ROAD—MAINTENANCE OF.

93. Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether the Hon'ble Minister has seen the hopeless condition of the road from the Chalakkudi Railway Station to Western Chalakkudi;

(*b*) is there not provision in the budget for metalling this road;

(*c*) why is this work not taken up;

(*d*) has not the Hon'ble Minister received repeated representations about the urgency of this work?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*):

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The estimate for the work has been sanctioned and tenders have been called for. The work will be executed soon.

(*d*) Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I may inform the hon'ble member that the work has already been handed over. I got the information that the work has been already handed over only after I had sent up the answer to this question.

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